

REMARKS

A. Introduction

Claims 1-10 were presented for examination.

Claims 1-8 were rejected.

Claims 9 and 10 were objected to.

Claims 1-9 have been amended.

Claim 10 has been cancelled.

New claims 11-19 have been submitted.

B. Claim Objections

Claims 1-10 were objected for being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended Claim 1 to distinctly claim the present invention. This argument is extended to Claims 2-10 which depend from Claim 1.

C. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Examiner rejected Claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Schluter (U.S. Patent No. 5,960,591). Applicant has considered these rejections and has amended Claim 1 to distinguish the present invention over the prior art. This argument is extended to Claims 2-9 which depend from Claim 1. Claim 10 has been cancelled. Claims 11-19 have been submitted for review.

Applicant has considered all points made by the Examiner in the Office Action dated September 30, 2004 and has incorporated Examiner's suggestions to ensure compliance with the applicable rules. In view of the above, it is submitted that Claims 1-9 and 11-19 are in a condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections is

respectfully requested.

If impediments to allowance of Claims 1-9 and 11-19 remain and a telephone conference between the undersigned and the examiner would help remove such impediments in the opinion of the examiner, a telephone conference is respectfully requested.

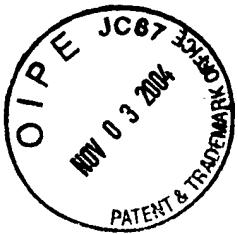
Respectfully submitted,

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